Meeting with West Bengal Chief Minister

4432. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of West Bengal has recently met him and apprised of growth of ISI modules, proliferation of madarsas and infiltration of Bangladeshis in the State as reported in the Statesman dated the 20th April, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the growth of ISI modules and madarsas have increased in the country during the last few months, if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action Government have taken on the views of the CM of the West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Chief Minister, West Bengal called on Union Home Minister on 19.4.2002. The requisite information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arrests made under POTO

4433. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested under Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance since October 2001 State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have refused to implement POTO in their States; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001 (POTO) was promulgated on 24.10.2001 and re-promulgated as Prevention of Terrorism (Second) Ordinance, 2001 on 30.12.2001. This was replaced by the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002. Since Law and Order is a State subject, the information regarding number of persons arrested under the POTO throughout the country is not centrally maintained in this Ministry.